

ABERGELE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

for the year 1949

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

WILLIAM MCKENDRICK, M.D., D.P.H.,

which includes the

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

SANITARY INSPECTOR

FRANK EVANS, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.



HEALTH COMMITTEE (1949-50).

Councillor JOHN PARRY (Chairman).

Councillor Harry Mathews (Vice-Chairman).

Councillors:

Mrs. G. M. Milwater, J.P.,	T. E. Leigh.
R. H. Edwards.	Harry Merrills.
Edward Hughes.	Goronwy Owen, J.P., C.C.
D. B. Jones, J.P., M.A.	Henry Parry.
D. Ivor Jones.	A. J. Power.
R. H. Jones, C.C.	R. E. Williams.
J. Evan Morris, J.P.	Howell G. Williams.
	J. C. Winkup.

Chairman of the Council - Councillor HUGH THOMAS, J.P.

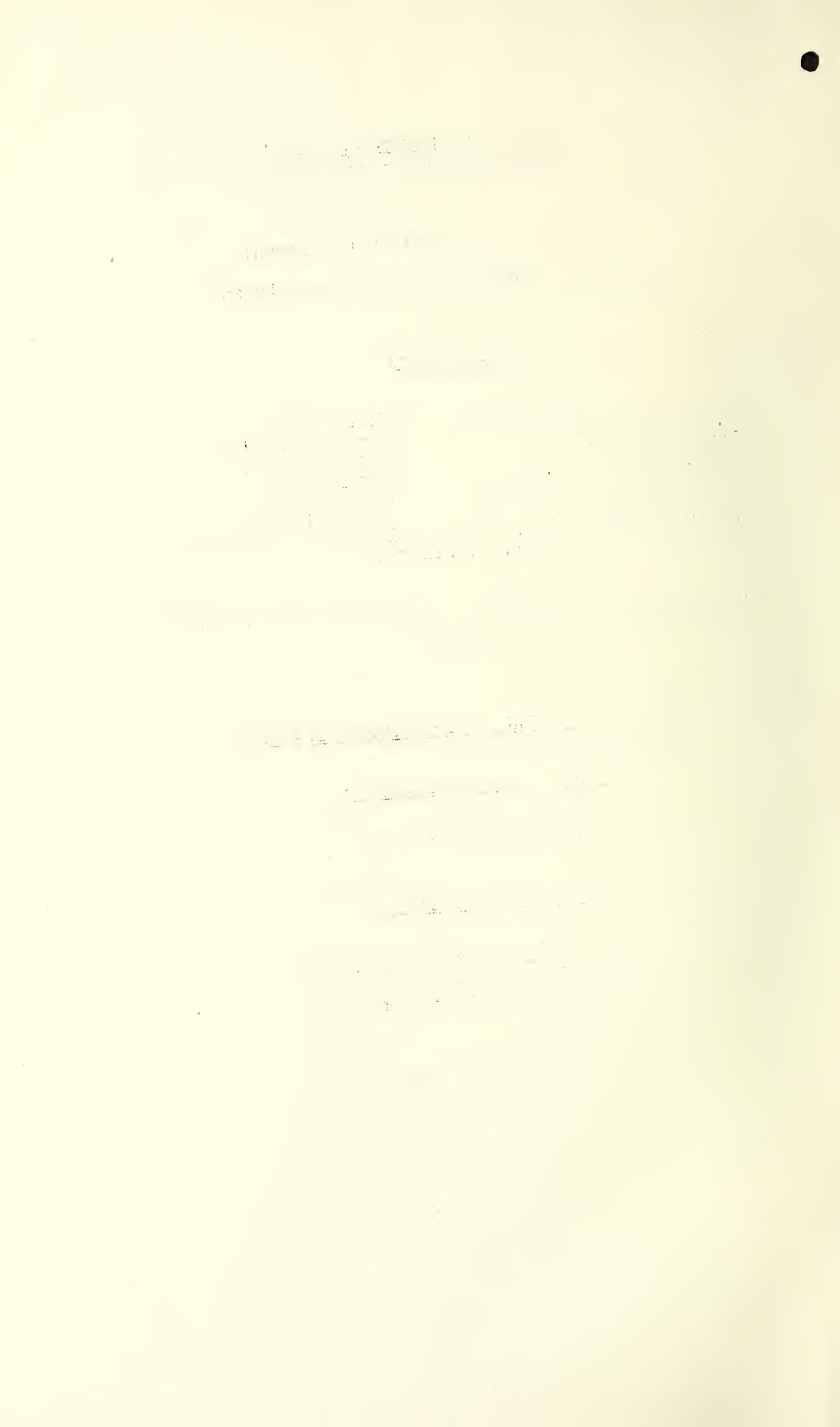
STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 1949-50.

Medical Officer of Health:

Wm. MCKENDRICK, M.D., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector:

FRANK EVANS, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Cert. Meat and Other Foods.
Cert. Smoke Inspection.



Pentre Mawr,
ABERGELE.

10th August, 1950.

TO: The Chairman and Members of the Health Committee,
ABERGELE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Milwater and Gentlemen,

I present herewith my Annual Report for 1949. This Report is required of me by the Sanitary Officers' Order and deals with the subjects laid down by the Minister of Health to whom copies must be sent.

It contains the Sanitary Inspector's Report to me on the work he has done during the year; I have also included a statement sent me by the Surveyor on the subjects of water supply and refuse collection.

To a large extent, vital statistics may be taken as the yard measure by which we can assess the efficiency of preventive medicine. The report therefore, by showing how health in Abergelie compares with previous years and with comparable figures for England and Wales, may be taken to prove that Abergelie was, in 1949, a healthy town. It must be remembered that the population of Abergelie is not an average one - an unusual number of elderly persons increases the expected number of deaths. The Registrar General has estimated that to make our death rate of 12.1 comparable with the National figure of 11.7, we must multiply it by 0.83. So, the corrected Death rate becomes 10.0.

The report also contains a record of the Sanitary Provisions of the area and a discussion of our main problems.

Probably no subject has given the Committee more concern or called for more anxious effort, than that of Camping. In this the Camp owners have joined. The lack of an efficient water-carriage system in the Kinmel Bay area is a major worry. It is not easy to speak in a restrained way of Summer conditions here. Several of the Camp owners have spent large sums of money in providing water-closets. These are most desirable - but more water-closets mean more liquid sewage and so are not an unmixed blessing. The Council has been striving for years for permission to lay a sewerage.

Refuse disposal has also proved a worry as will be seen from the statements of both the Sanitary Inspector, who was responsible for this service during the first half of the year, and of the Surveyor, who was responsible during the second half.

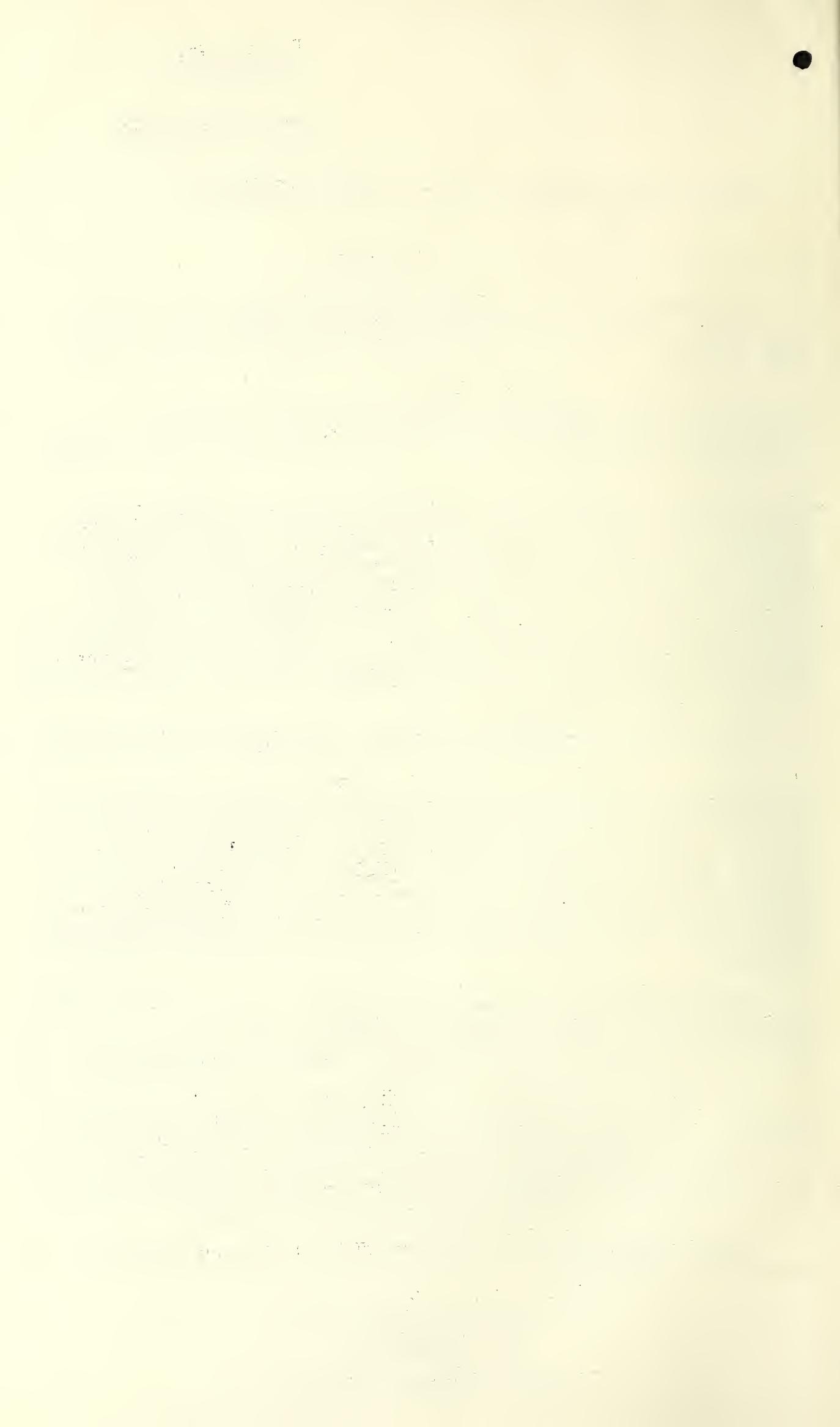
I am glad to acknowledge the co-operation of my colleagues. The Town Clerk and the Surveyor have willingly helped me whenever possible as have their Staffs. Of the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Frank Evans, I cannot speak too highly; he has been indefatigable and keen in his work and has not only made many investigations for me and kept me well informed as to the sanitary state of the district, but he has done all with delightful good-will.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I would thank you for your unfailing support and friendship.

Yours sincerely,

Wm. McKENDRICK,

Medical Officer of Health.



VITAL STATISTICS.

Area of District (acres)..... 7964.75
 Registrar General's Estimated
 Population (Mid 1949)..... 7,395
 Inhabited Houses..... 2,300 approx
 Rateable Value..... £42,182 - 1st April, 1949.
 Sum represented by a penny rate..... £170 7s. 7d. - 1949/50.

LIVE BIRTHS:

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate.....	70	59	129
Illegitimate.....	4	4	8
Total.....	74	63	137

Birth Rate per 1,000 population - 18.5

STILL-BIRTHS:

1	5	6
---	---	---

Still-birth rate per 1,000 population - 0.8

INFANT MORTALITY:

1	1	2
---	---	---

Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 births - 14.6

DEATHS:

42	48	100
----	----	-----

Death-rate per 1,000 population - 13.5

Deaths from Puerperal Fever.....	0
Cancer.....	14
Measles.....	0
Diarrhoea under 2 years.....	0

The following table contrasts the Statistics for Abergel in 1948 and 1949 with those of England and Wales in 1949:-

	England & Wales 1949.	Abergel 1948. 1949.	
		7,402	7,395
Population.....	-	137	137
Births.....	-	18.5	18.5
Live-Birth Rate.....	16.7	0.8	0.8
Still-birth Rate.....	0.39	2	2
Infant deaths.....	-	14.6	14.6
Infant Mortality Rate	32	76	90
Deaths.....	-	10.26	12.1
Death Rate.....	11.7	0.0	0.0
Maternal Mortality Rate.	1.04		

It is interesting to note that exactly the same number of births, still-births and infant deaths occurred in 1948 as in 1949. The population is estimated to have fallen by 7 persons. To have an infant mortality rate for two consecutive years of 14.6 is exceptionally good. The stillbirths however, are again disturbing. The rate for stillbirths is double that of the Country and denotes defective ante-natal care. During the first

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b28823205>

six months of 1950 only 52 expectant mothers attended at the ante-natal Clinics - yet there were 65 births. No doubt many of the other 43 attended at the consulting rooms of family doctors but there is a grave lack of co-ordination between the various Authorities responsible for the care of expectant mothers, the County Council provides the Health Visitor, the Midwife and the Ante-natal Clinic; the Executive Committee provides the Doctor; and the Hospital Board provides the Hospital - and the District Council worries over the result.

There were 90 deaths in the district as compared with 76 in 1948. The death-rate therefore rose from 10.26 to 13.5.

There was a considerable increase in the number of deaths from heart disease - from 13 to 28. There were no "Road Traffic" deaths as against 7 in 1948.

The following table shows the causes of death:-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.....	1	1	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis.....	0	1	1
Cancer (a) Stomach.....	1	0	1
(b) Breast.....	0	1	1
(c) Other Sites.....	6	6	12
Intracranial Vascular lesions.....	1	10	11
Heart Diseases.....	12	16	28
Other Circulatory Diseases.....	3	5	8
Bronchitis.....	2	1	3
Pneumonia.....	0	1	1
Other respiratory diseases.....	4	0	4
Digestive diseases.....	1	2	3
Nephritis.....	3	1	4
Congenital Malformation, etc.....	1	1	2
Violence.....	1	0	1
All other causes.....	6	2	8
	<u>42</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>90</u>

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1. Laboratory Provisions:

(a) Bacteriological: Samples of milk, ice-cream, water and other foods capable of causing food-poisoning, are examined at the Public Health Laboratory, Conway. Samples of these are sent by the Medical Officer of Health or Sanitary Inspector and details will be given later in this Report.

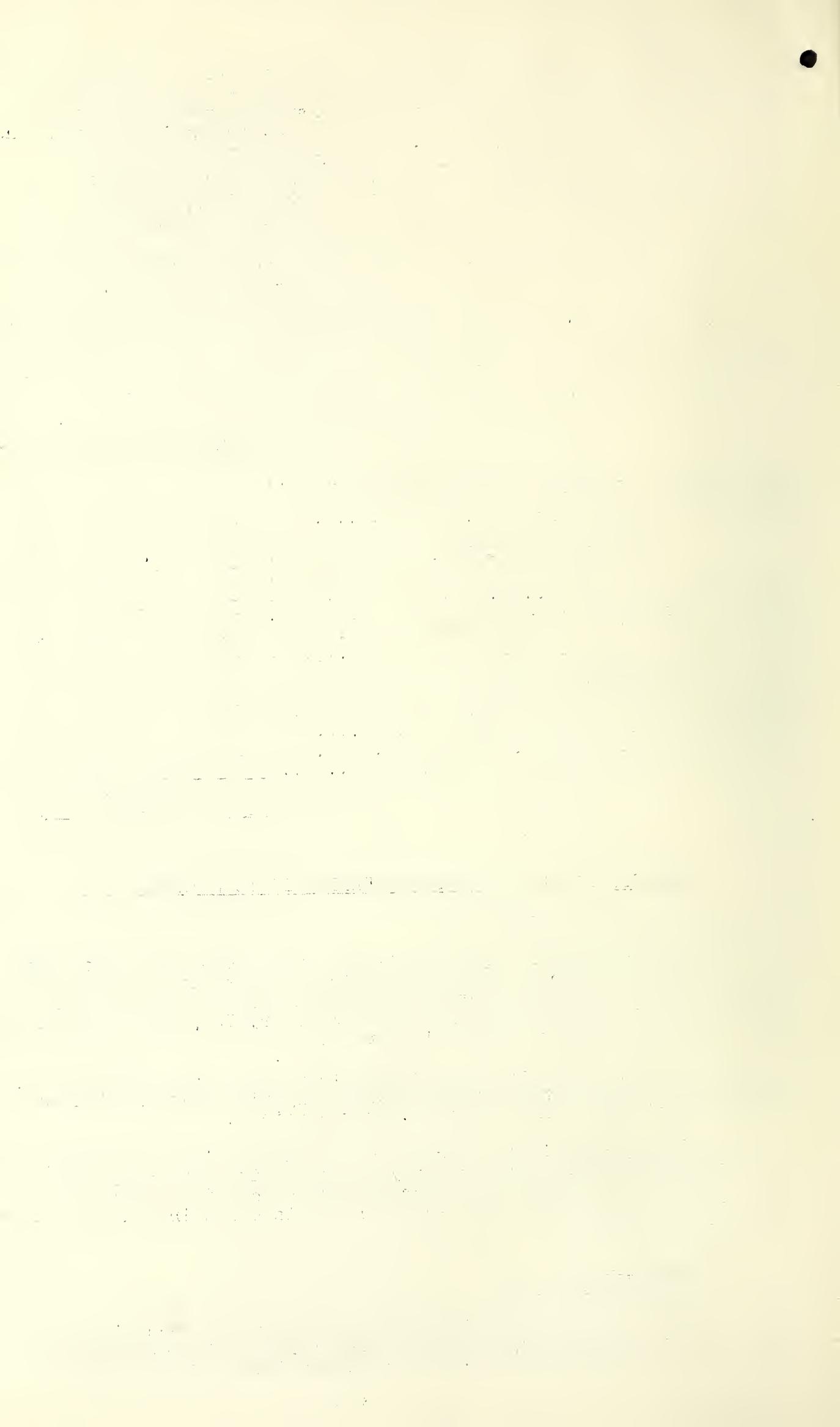
Throat swabs, faeces, urine, blood, etc., are also examined. These may be sent by any Doctor at any time. Examination is promptly made and Reports quickly obtained.

(b) Pathological: There is now a pathological laboratory at Colwyn Bay Hospital where any material likely to help doctors in the diagnosis of diseases or the assessing of the value of treatment, is examined. This service is now being fully used by Abergel doctors.

(c) Water:

(i) Chemical:

Chemical analysis of water is only done occasionally as the Report can only indicate "long-term" purity or contamination - e.g. it can show that water was contaminated but has now been



purified by sedimentation, aeration, etc. If it has been contaminated, it is suspect, as contamination from the same source may be repeated or even increased. It is desirable to have all public supplies chemically tested at intervals - say six-monthly.

(ii) Bacteriological:

Bacteriological examination indicates the present state of a water - whether it is now safe or not. This type of test should be made frequently - at least monthly and preferably fortnightly. Tests are made at the Public Health Laboratory, Conway, and samples in specially supplied sterile receptacles (provided by the Laboratory) are sent by the Sanitary Inspector or Surveyor.

(d) Milk: Milk is the greatest problem in the food supply. It may be the source of disease yet it is essential to health. We therefore require milk that is free from pathological bacteria and also free from souring bacteria. Milk therefore needs to be tested for disease-causing germs - e.g. tubercle bacilli and germs from excreta and also for other germs. This is done by a variety of tests. Testing for tuberculosis is done by biological methods - i.e. milk is injected into a guinea-pig and the result noted: contamination with excreta is denoted by tests for bacillus coli; germs that lead to souring are noted by other tests. Fortunately, pasteurisation should destroy all germs and a special test - the Phosphatase test - denotes efficient pasteurisation; another test - the Resazurin - denotes the presence or absence of improper numbers of bacteria. Milk which does not pass this latter test does not keep and is suspect in all respects. We therefore concentrate on these two tests - Phosphatase for pasteurised milk and Resazurin for other milk. These tests are now done at the Public Health Laboratory. Results are given later.

2. Ambulance Facilities:

The provision of transport for those persons unable to travel to or from Hospital by ordinary means is the responsibility of the County Council. The Abergel district is served by the Local Voluntary Unit - helped at times by the Colwyn Bay Voluntary Ambulance Corps. The work is efficiently done.

3. Nursing in the Home:

This is now a County service. The change from voluntary to public service has been smooth and no change in the personnel has been made. Abergel is well served.

4. Clinics:

These are provided by the County Council. In my capacity of Assistant County Medical Officer I attend at most of these. They are as follows:-

1. Child Welfare: Abergel - Baptist School Room, alternate Thursdays at 2 p.m.
 Llanddulas - Baptist School Room on alternate Mondays at 2 p.m.
2. Ante-Natal: Abergel - Baptist School Room at 10.30 a.m. alternate Thursdays.

3. Orthopaedic treatment/

3. Orthopaedic treatment: Colwyn Bay Clinic on alternate Thursdays at 10 a.m.

4. Tuberculosis: Colwyn Bay Clinic on 1st and 3rd Fridays at 9.30 a.m.
Rhyl.

5. Day Nursery:

There is not a day nursery in the area.

6. Venereal Diseases:

Venereal Diseases are treated as follows:-

(1) Chester Royal Infirmary - Outpatients' Department -
Males - Monday 5 - 7 p.m.
Saturday - noon.

Females - Mondays 5 - 7 p.m.
Thursdays 5 - 7 p.m.

(2) Bangor C. & A. Infirmary:
Males - Wednesdays 6.0 p.m.
Females - Fridays - 2 - 4 p.m.

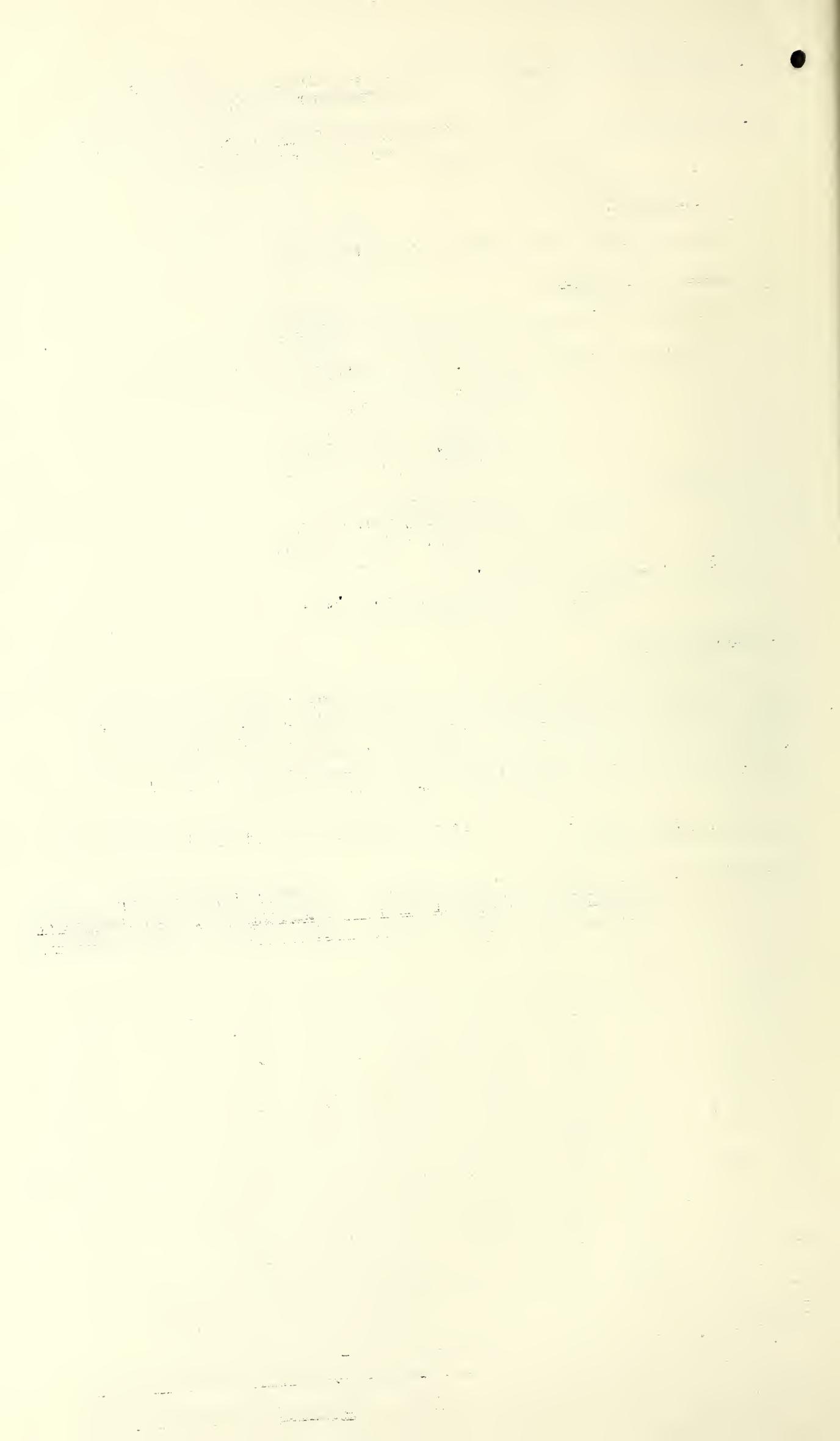
(3) Llandudno Hospital:
Males - Thursdays 6.0 p.m.
Females - Thursdays 2.0 p.m.

7. Tuberculosis:

It has not been necessary to take any action under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925. (This concerns persons suffering from tuberculosis who are engaged in the milk trade) or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (this permits of the compulsory removal to Hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis).

The distribution of Tuberculosis notifications is shown in the following table:-

Age Periods.	New Cases during Year.				Deaths during Year.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 14	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-
15 - 19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 24	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
45 - 54	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 64	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
65 and upwards.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	12	8	-	2	-	2	-	1



The following table shows the state of the Tuberculosis Register on 31.12.48 and 31.12.49.

31st December, 1948.

Pulmonary Non-Pulmonary

M.	F.	M.	F.
57	43	6	10

Total: 96

31st December, 1949.

Pulmonary Non-Pulmonary.

M.	F.	M.	F.
35	29	2	1

Total: 67

During 1949 the Tuberculosis Register was overhauled. Many who are now resident in other areas and many who may now be regarded as cured have been removed so that the numbers now on, may be regarded as showing the true state in the area.

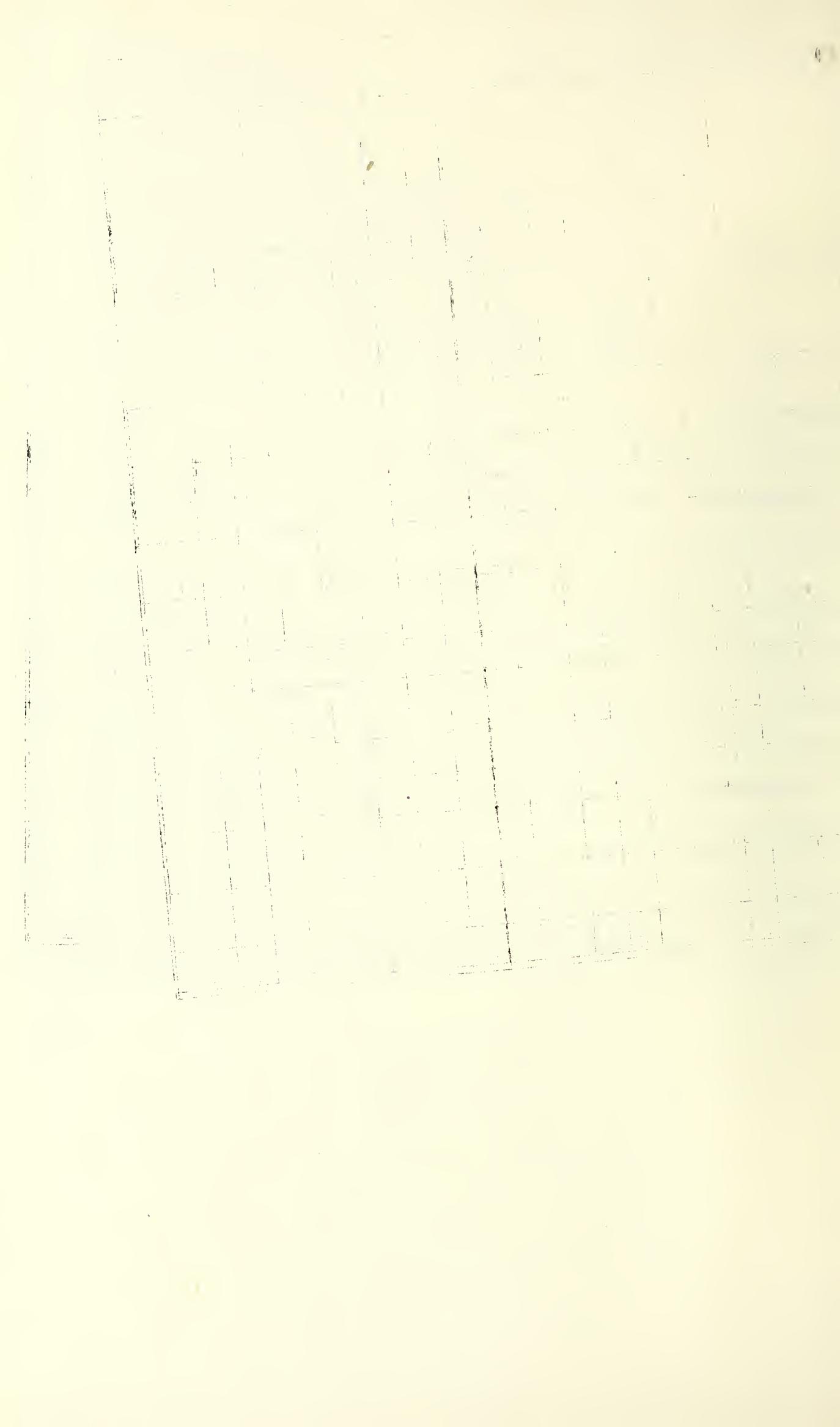
8. Infectious Diseases:

The following table shows the incidence of infectious disease in the Urban District. It will be noted that measles and whooping cough account for 238 of 281 notifications. So far, we have no easily given protection against measles but protection against whooping cough is possible. There were 80 cases of whooping cough in Abergelc (population 7,395) in 1949 and 28 cases in 1948. The corresponding figures for Colwyn Bay (population 23,290) in 1949 and 1948 were 45 and 12 - in Colwyn Bay most babies are immunised against whooping cough. Moreover, whereas 74% of the cases affected infants in Abergelc, only 49% of the cases affected infants in Colwyn Bay.

There were 21 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified compared with 6 in 1948. This is a startling increase. I hope that the Mass Radiography Unit will visit Abergelc soon so that sources of infection may be found.

I am perturbed at the position in the Camps. Recently a case of paratyphoid was notified from one of the Camps - the notification reached me about three weeks after the person returned home; when we visited the Camp we found that the only way to find which caravan had been occupied by that person was to write to a Lancashire town and hope that the owner of the caravans could pin-point the particular one involved. Meantime, three other families have occupied the infected beds and utensils. Registration of the inmates of the Camp is desirable.

Notifiable diseases.	No. of Cases notified at ages Years						No. of Deaths at ages Years									
	At all ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	Total.
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	6	1	-	1	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Pulmonary T.B.	21	-	2	1	5	7	4	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2
Non-Pulmonary T.B.	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Whooping Cough.	80	9	50	20	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	158	2	30	76	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	6	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	5	-	-	-	-	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis	2	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro- Spinal Fever	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Membranous Croup	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	281	12	136	104	6	12	6	5	-	-	-	1	2	-	1	4



9. Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1938.

The following statement has been supplied to me by the Chief Inspector of the Denbigh County Council:-

Particulars of samples of food and drugs taken under the above Act in the Urban District of Abergale, during the year ended 31st December, 1949.

ARTICLE.	No. taken.	Genuine.	Not genuine or Sub-standard.
Milk	28	22	6
Butter	1	1	-
Sausages	2	1	1
Jam	1	1	-
Condensed Milk	1	1	-
Tinned Celery	1	1	-
Sweets	1	1	-
Ice Cream	4	4	-
TOTALS	39	32	7

The six samples of milk shown as "not genuine" were slightly deficient in solids, but no added water was detected.

One sample of sausages was slightly deficient in meat content.

All other samples were genuine, and free from all prohibited preservatives and colouring matter.

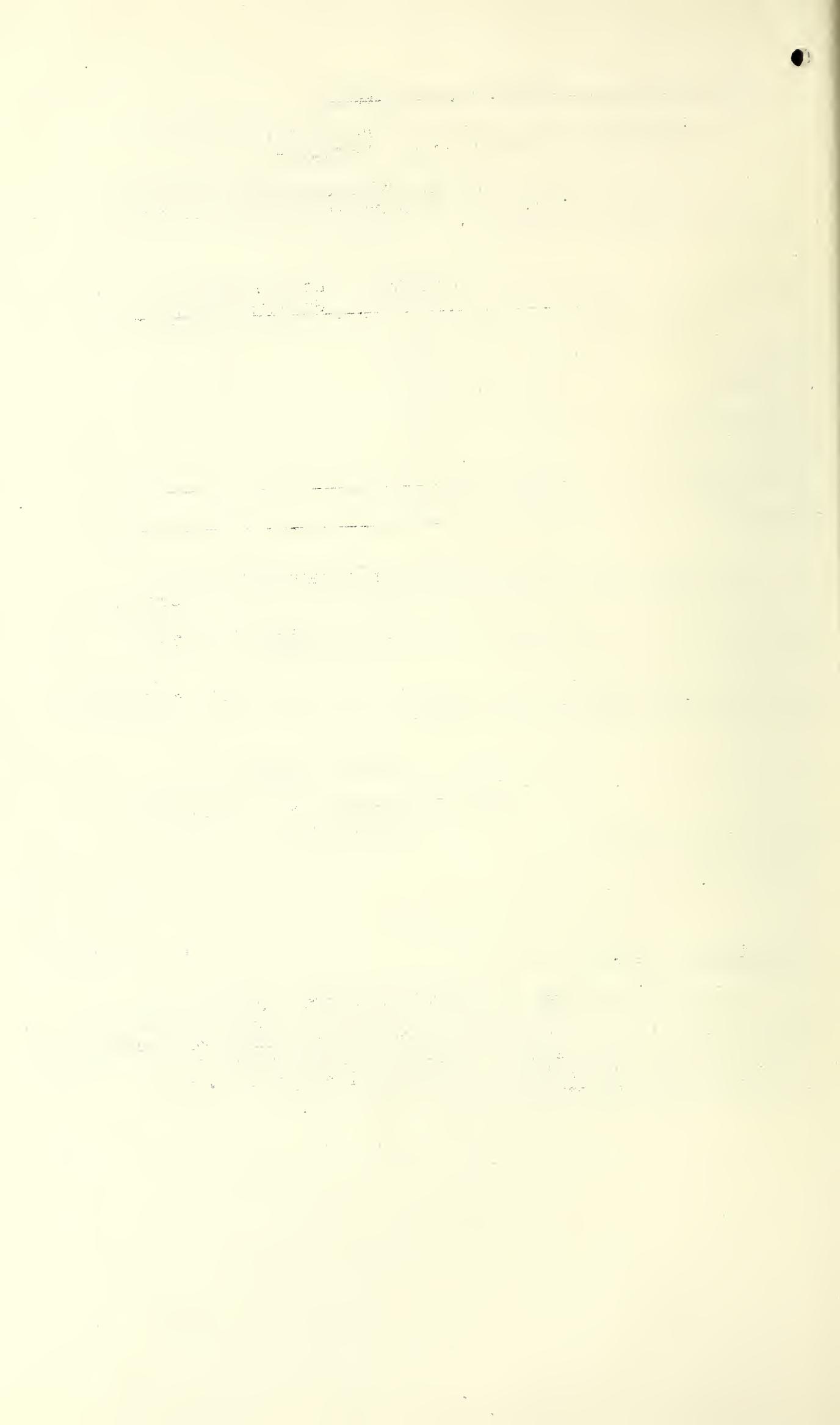
(Signed) D. WYNNE GRIFFITH,

Chief Inspector for the County
of Denbigh.

16 Woodland Road East,
COLWYN BAY.

10. Handling of Food.

Systematic visitation of all Cafes, Restaurants and Bakehouses, etc., has been made. I am glad to record that the local caterers are alive to the need for scrupulous cleanliness. Recently, they were advised as to more recent methods of cleansing drinking utensils - this should lead to an even greater feeling of security.



LLANDDULAS WATER SUPPLY.

The following statement has been given to me by Mr. R. O. Roberts the Surveyor:-

The Llanddulas area is supplied with water from Glyn Lws Reservoir which has a capacity of 2,500,000 gallons. The average consumption is 25,000 gallons per day. The water is filtered through two Rapid Pressure Filters of 4' 6" diameter with a total capacity of 96,000 gallons per 24 hours. The actual output varies between 23,000 and 30,000 gallons per 24 hours.

Other treatments are -

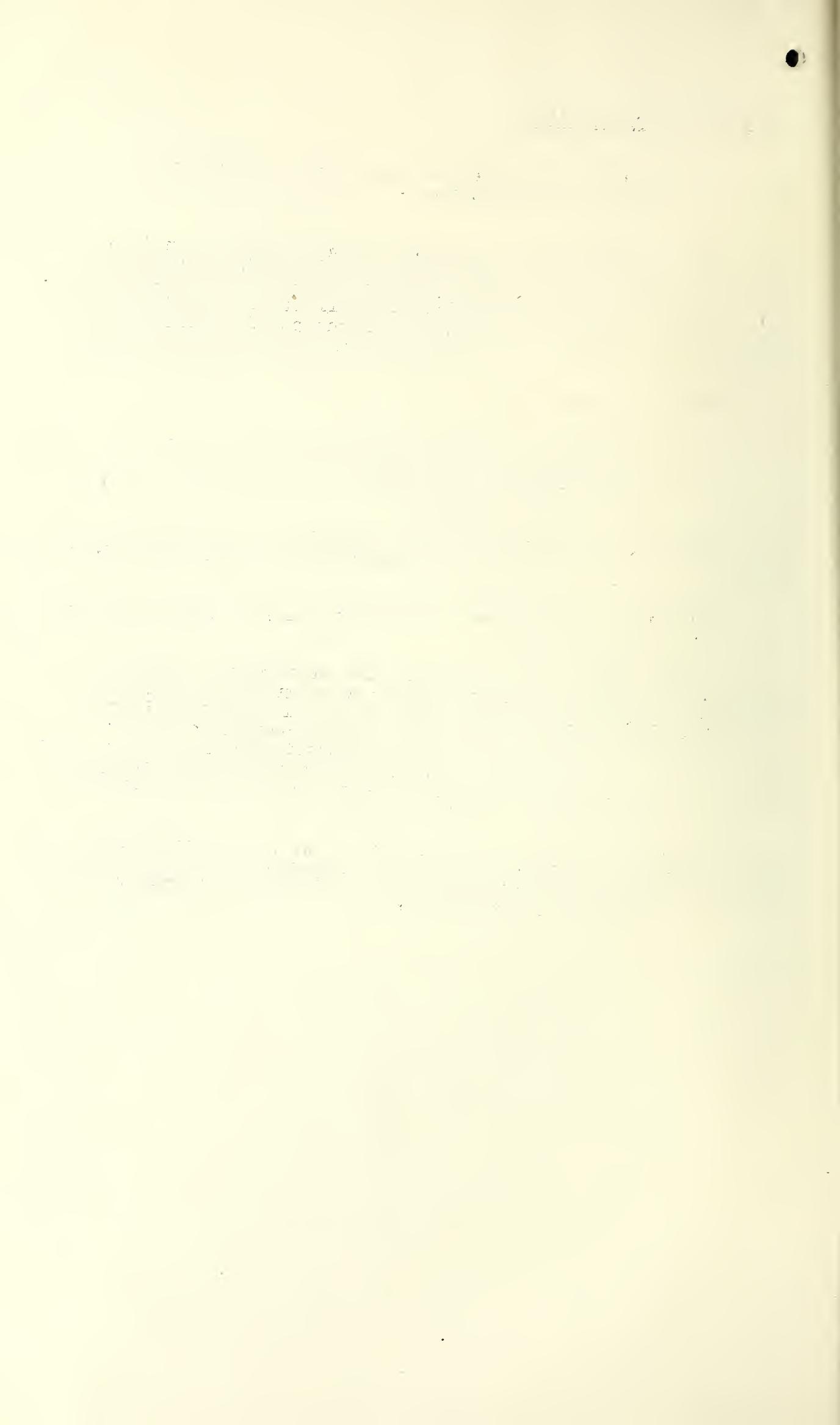
- (1) Dosage of Alumina Sulphate and Powered Chalk to unfiltered water;
- (2) Dosage of Hydrated Lime to filtered water; and
- (3) Chloramine Treatment.

The quantity of the above varies according to the amount of water in the reservoir and the normal dose is increased in the Summer.

Samples of the water are taken regularly and the reports are highly satisfactory.

On August 21st, 1949, owing to the very dry season, the reservoir was empty and water had to be supplied from the Colwyn Bay Supply. A temporary main was laid for a distance of approximately 1,000 yards to connect both mains. This supply was continued until the 21st October when the reservoir was again full. During this period, Rhydyfoel and other parts of the area on the higher levels were supplied daily with water from tanks from a lorry.

During the year an extension of the new 4" main from Wern Road to the Dulas Arms Hotel was completed. This was to replace the old 3" main which was badly corroded and greatly reduced the pressure to this area.



In accordance with Section 18 of the Sanitary Officers' Order, Mr. Frank Evans, Sanitary Inspector, has furnished me with the following particulars of inspections and other work done by him during the year:-

To: Dr. Wm. McKendrick, Medical Officer of Health for Abergale - I herewith submit my Report on work done during the year 1949 in the Urban District of Abergale:-

General Summary.

TABLE I

No. of complaints received and attended to.....	210
No. of Inspections for detection of nuisances.....	334
No. of Re-visits in connection with nuisances.....	269
No. of nuisances abated.....	202
No. of nuisances not abated but work in hand.....	34
No. of Informal Notices served for abatement of nuisances...	154
No. of Formal Notices served for abatement of nuisances....	NIL
No. of Visits re Moveable Dwellings and Camping Sites.....	567
No. of Enquiries re Infectious Diseases.....	50
No. of Verminous premises disinfested.....	6
No. of Visits to Slaughterhouse	142
No. of Visits to premises where food is prepared and sold...	59
No. of Visits to Ice Cream Shops.....	84
No. of Samples taken of Ice Cream.....	43
No. of Visits re Milk Control.....	66
No. of Samples taken of Milk Supply.....	53
No. of Visits re Water Supply.....	42
No. of Water Samples collected.....	28
No. of Visits re Refuse and Salvage.....	247
No. of Visits re Rodent Control.....	38
No. of Visits re Smoke Nuisance.....	13
No. of Inspections of Factories.....	18
No. of Miscellaneous Visits.....	117
No. of Interviews.....	328

TABLE II - Sanitary Defects.

No. of Defective or choked drains.....	26
No. of Defective W.C. accommodation and sanitary fittings...	7
No. of defects in Water Supply fittings.....	5
No. of defective Pails, or absence of Pails.....	4
No. of dilapidated Refuse Bins or absence of Bins.....	110
No. of defective Roofs and Chimney Stacks.....	5
No. of defective Rainwater fittings.....	7
No. of defective Paving of Yards, etc.....	3
No. of Damp conditions in houses.....	8
No. of Miscellaneous nuisances.....	31

TABLE III - Housing Statistics.

1. Inspection of Dwelling houses during the year.

- (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for Housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)..... 84
- (b) No. of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation..... 6
- (c) No. of dwelling houses (exclusive of that referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation..... 57

• Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice:-
 No. of dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action..... 30

3. Action under statutory powers during the year. No action has been taken under the statutory powers contained in either the Housing Act, 1936, or the Public Health Act, 1936.

4. Demolitions as result of informal action.
 No. of individually unfit houses demolished by the owners..... 1

One house in Llanddulas was considered to be structurally unsafe for habitation. The Council offered the tenants alternative accommodation but this was not accepted, and the house remains in occupation.

A wooden structure in Cader Avenue, Kinmel Bay, became vacant because of the death of the occupant. By informal approach to the owner, the premises were demolished and the site cleared.

There are unfortunately, many temporary structures which are occupied permanently by a family, and the conditions under which the occupants are living are very distressing. Serious consideration should be given to these cases when the allocation of Council houses is being dealt with, and steps should be taken to prevent the re-occupation of such premises.

There are still families occupying houses which were the subject in 1937 of Clearance Orders. It is hoped that progress in building will soon be expedited in order that these unfit dwellings can be demolished, and also that other unfit houses can be dealt with under the Housing Acts.

The execution of repairs to dwelling houses is still a very difficult problem. The cost of repairs has increased enormously but the rent is controlled, and we have continued to adopt the policy of requesting owners to carry out only the minimum of repairs, so as to keep the houses wind and weather-proof and free from serious nuisance.

In course of time the operation of the Housing Act, 1949, should be the means of effecting considerable improvement in housing conditions.

Factories and Workplaces.

The following table is in the prescribed form Part 1 of the Act.

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

M/c line No. (2)	No. on Reg- ister. (3)	Number of Inspections. (4)	Written Notices. (5)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (6)	M/c line No. (7)
1	10	-	-	-	1
2	28	18	9	-	2
3	-	-	-	-	3
	38	18	9	-	

There were no listed outworkers in the district.



M/c line No.	Number Found	Number Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	Number of cases in which prosecu- tions were instituted.	M/c line No.
(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
4	-	-	-	-	-	4
5	-	-	-	-	-	5
6	-	-	-	-	-	6
7	-	-	-	-	-	7
8	-	-	-	-	-	8
9	-	-	-	-	-	9
10	-	-	-	-	-	10
11	-	-	-	-	-	11
12	9	6	-	-	-	12
60	9	6	-	-	-	60

Camping Sites and Moveable Dwellings.

During the year 1949, there appeared to be a considerable increase in the number of persons who spent holidays on the Camping Sites.

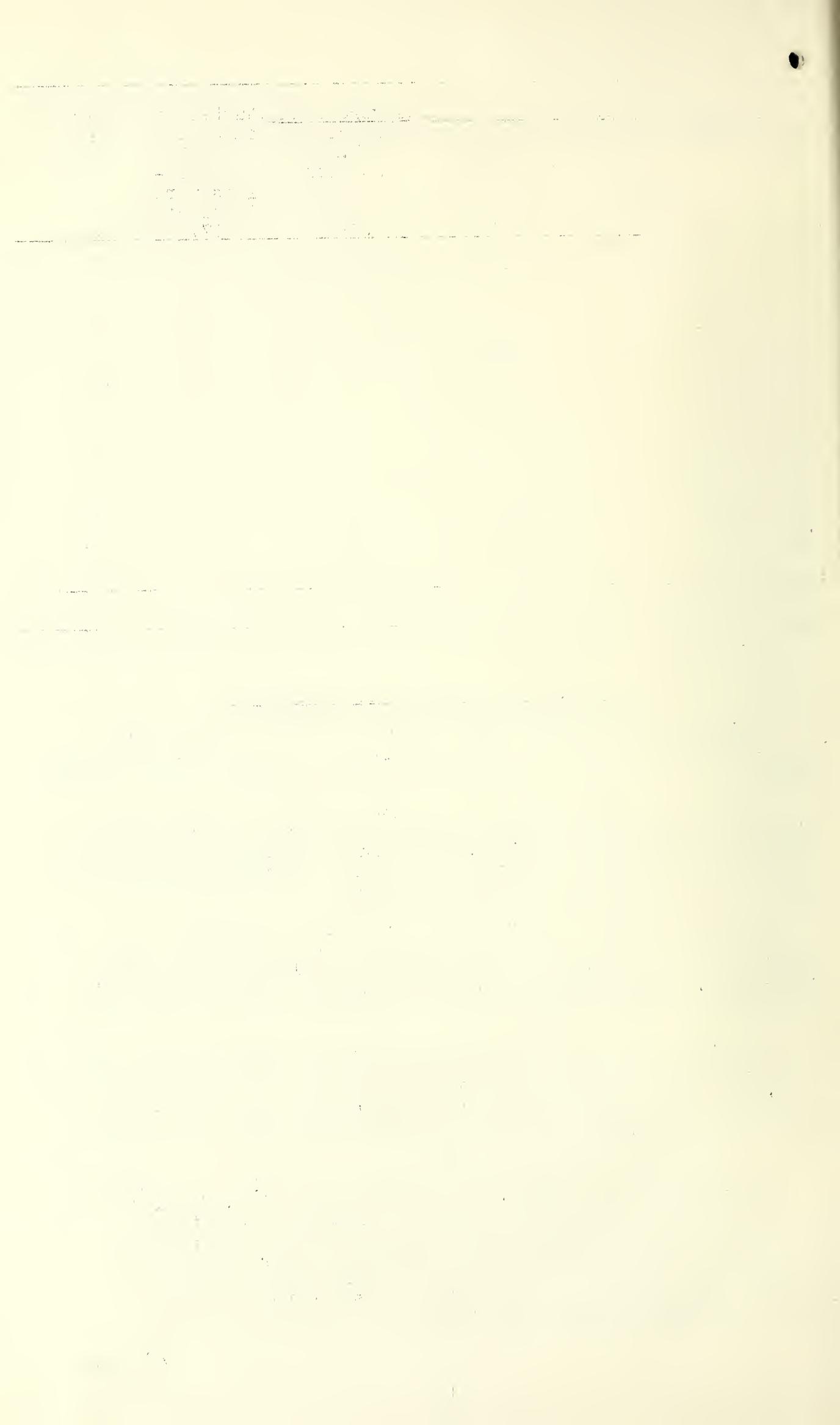
Four new Camping Sites were licensed, and as a result of the successful appeal by one Camp Proprietor against the Council's refusal to grant him a Camping Site Licence, three licences had to be granted to persons in respect of Camping sites which were situated in the proposed residential zones.

Several Camping Sites gave the appearance of being overcrowded, but when it is remembered that the Model Bye-laws requirement for distance between Moveable dwellings is as small as ten feet, overcrowding measured by this standard probably did not occur.

In several cases, Caravans are stationed round the perimeter of the fields, the whole of the centre portion being reserved for recreation. The appearance of such sites is good, but of course if all Camping Sites were used in this manner, many more acres of land would be required to accommodate all the people who wish to have a Camping holiday in our area.

Every effort has been made to ensure that only a good class of Moveable Dwelling is introduced to a Camping Site. The new licences issued, restricted the class of Moveable Dwellings to genuine Trailer Caravans, and I appealed to the Proprietors of existing Sites not to admit bus bodies or other discarded vehicles. The erection of the Chalet or Bungalow type of Moveable Dwellings, being a structure, was controlled by the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947.

/During



During the year, the Camping activities provided several problems which did cause the Council much concern. The impracticability of exercising adequate control over infectious diseases was again evident. The increasing practice of persons living permanently on the Camping Sites in what must be considered to be sub-standard dwellings was noted and it was found that approximately ninety such premises were in permanent occupation. There does not appear to be any power given to local authorities in Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, to restrict the occupation of Moveable Dwellings to summer season, but notwithstanding this, I appealed to all Camp Proprietors to discourage this practice. Another serious problem which arose was the question of sewage disposal. The vast Camping population during July and August showed how inadequate were the sewage disposal arrangements on some of the Camping Sites.

The seriousness of the situation induced the Council to set up a Camping Sub-Committee and a meeting was held to which all the Camp Proprietors were invited.

There is evidence of a considerable improvement, due to voluntary action on the part of some Camp Proprietors subsequent to this meeting, and there is a feeling that Campers will become more discriminating. We look forward to the final position where the high standard adopted by some Camp Proprietors, will of necessity be followed by all to the benefit of the Camping Community and the Local Authority.

Temporary Buildings.

Several instances were found of the erection of temporary buildings and their habitation without the prior submission of Plans, and these were immediately reported to the appropriate Officer and to the Public Health Committee.

Energetic steps should be taken to stop this practice, which inevitably results in an increased housing problem for the Council in addition to the harmful effects to the amenities of the area.

Sewage Disposal.

The arrangements for sewage disposal in the various parts of the Urban Area remain substantially the same at the end of 1949 as they were at the beginning.

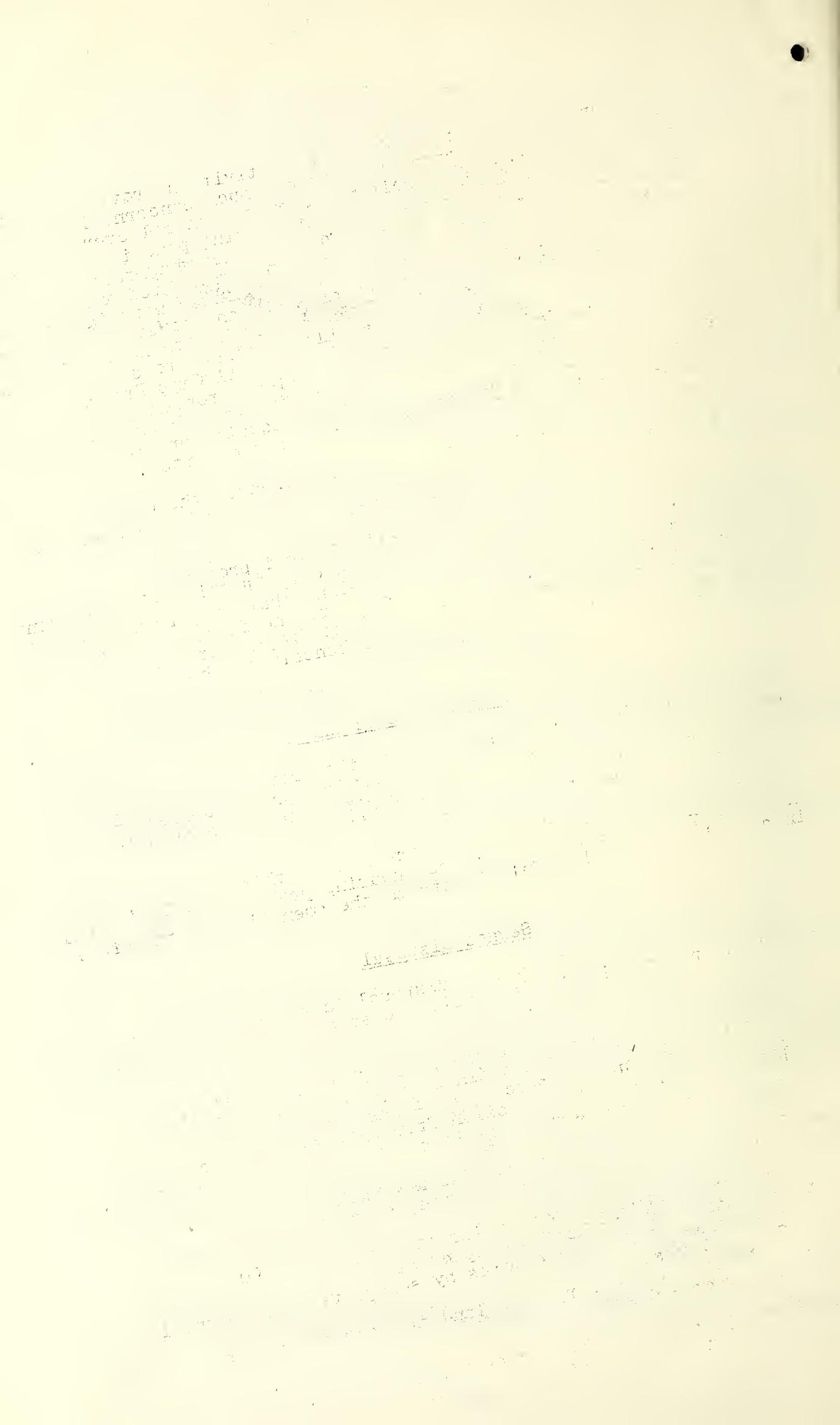
Disappointment is felt at the rate of progress with the Council's Scheme for Towyn and Kinmel Bay. The difficulties involved are, of course appreciated. I must again draw the Council's attention to the omission from this Scheme of certain areas which carry considerable residential or Camping development.

During the year the most serious nuisance from inadequate sewage disposal arose from the following sources:-

- a. Discharge from the properties at Sandy Cove, Kinmel Bay.
- b. Pollution of ditches at Camping Sites.
- c. Pollution of the River Dulas by sewage from the Council's Sewage Tanks.
- d. Pollution of the Foreshore land at Ty Crwn by sewage from Gwrych Castle.

Members are aware of the difficulties in connection with these problems and of the efforts which were made to overcome them.

/In



In the Towyn area it is a common practice for the overflow from cesspools and septic tanks serving houses to be piped into nearby ditches. One case was discovered in Kinmel Bay where the cesspool serving a recently erected pair of semi-detached bungalows was sited at a distance less than half that required to comply with the Council's Building Bye-laws.

Sewage disposal still remains one of the Council's major Public Health problems.

Water Supply.

Throughout the year the practice of taking samples of water for bacteriological examination was continued, and in all twenty-eight samples were collected, made up as follows:-

Glyn Lws Supply..... 18 samples.
Rhyl U.D.C. Supply..... 7 samples.
Private supplies..... 3 samples.

During July and August the samples taken from the Glyn Lws supply were unsatisfactory and appropriate precautions were taken. The reason for the unsatisfactory condition of the water was the drought. The reservoir finally became completely dry.

All samples for the Rhyl U.D.C. supply were found to be satisfactory and there was never, on any occasion, any suggestion of a shortage in this supply.

The samples of water from one private supply to premises receiving large numbers of visitors were found to be unsatisfactory and appropriate precautions were advised in this case.

A sample of water from a private supply which served Dairy farm premises was found to be satisfactory.

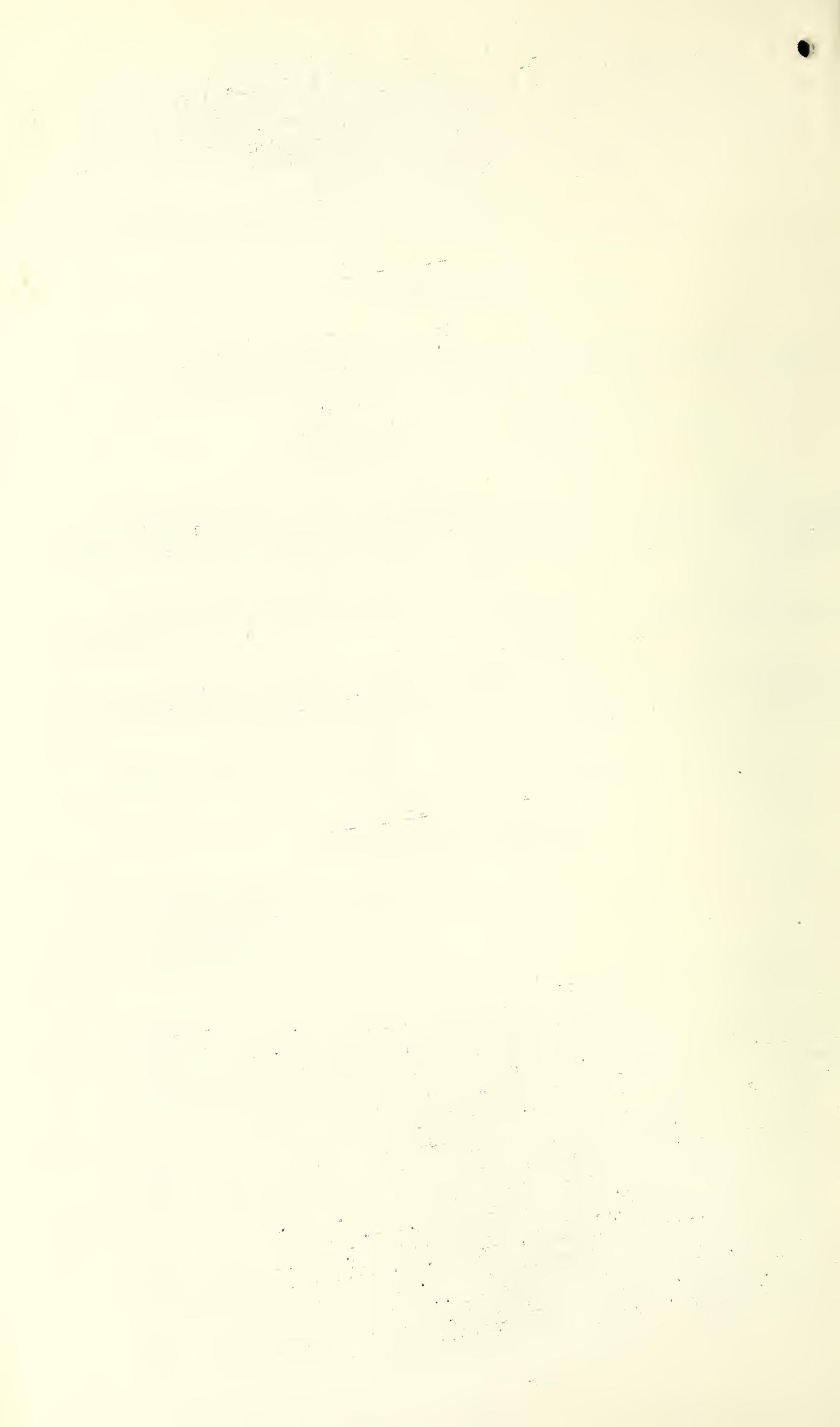
Meat and Food Inspection.

(a) Carcasses inspected at the Slaughterhouse -

436	Cattle.
4,074	Sheep.
43	Pigs.
257	Calves.

(b) Condemnations -

	lbs.
2 Beast carcasses and offal..Fevered.....	1,020
6 Beast carcasses and offal..Generalised Tuberculosis....	2,920
2 Beast carcasses and offal..Septic Pericarditis.....	900
5 Beast carcasses and offal..Emaciation and Oedema.....	1,000
Beef.....Injury.....	230
1 Beast full offal.....Cysticercus Bovis.....	60
1 Hindquarter of Beef.....Tuberculosis.....	175
4 Beast heads.....Actinomycosis.....	120
16 Beast heads.....Tuberculosis.....	480
2 Beast lungs.....Abscesses.....	24
7 Beast lungs.....Pleurisy.....	84
35 Beast lungs.....Tuberculosis.....	410
12 Beast lungs.....Hydatid Cysts.....	144
197 Beast livers.....Distomatosis.....	2,364
1 Beast liver.....Fatty.....	12
12 Beast livers.....Abscesses.....	144
4 Beast livers.....Tuberculosis.....	48
6 Beast livers.....Hydatid Cysts.....	72



(b) Condemnations - continued.

	<u>lbs.</u>
1 Beast liver.....	Cavernous Angioma.....
4 Beast Kidneys.....	Nephritis.....
1 Sheep Carcase and offal....	Gangrenous Pneumonia.....
1 Sheep carcase.....	Bone Taint.....
2 Sheep carcasses and offal...	Peritonitis.....
1 Sheep carcase and offal....	Moribund.....
1 Sheep carcase and offal....	Pyaemia.....
5 Sheep carcasses and offal...	Oedema and Emaciation.....
42 Sheep livers.....	Distomatosis.....
4 Sheep livers.....	Fatty.....
Mutton.....	Injuries.....
1 Sheep carcase....	Decomposition.....
2 Sheep carcasses and offal...	Fevered.....
2 Sheep carcasses and offal...	Injuries.....
2 Sheep carcasses and offal...	Septic Pleurisy.....
1 Calf.....	Oedema and Emaciation.....
9 Calves.....	Immature.....
2 Pigs.....	Fevered.....
1 Pig's head.....	Tuberculosis.....

TOTAL WEIGHT condemned - 5 tons. 3 cwt. 2 qrs. 7 lbs

(c) Other Foods Condemned -

	<u>lbs.</u>
Canned Fruit.....	188
Canned Vegetables.....	1,799
Canned Milk.....	267
Canned Meat.....	134
Canned Soup.....	68
Canned Fish.....	42
Sandwich Spread.....	26
Cake Mixture.....	70
Dried Peas.....	126
Bacon.....	8
Wet Fish.....	70

TOTAL WEIGHT condemned 1 ton 4 cwt. 3 qrs. 26 lbs.

(d) Cysticercus Bovis.

In accordance with the Circular received from the Ministry of Food in November, 1948, routine inspections have been made of all cattle killed at the Slaughterhouse for the parasitic infection of *Cysticercus Bovis*. One such case was found, and was confirmed by the Veterinary Investigation Officer, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Pangor. Action in accordance with the recommendations was carried out.

Some authorities attribute the recent introduction of this condition to the housing of "displaced persons" from the Continent on Camps in Agricultural areas.

Milk Control.

The Food & Drugs (Milk & Dairies) Act, 1944, was brought into operation on 1st October, 1949, and on the same date the following new regulations came into operation:-

/(a)

- (a) The Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949.
- (b) The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised & Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.
- (c) The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

The effect of this new legislation was, briefly, as follows:-

The responsibility for the control of milk production, as distinct from distribution and sale, was transferred to the Minister of Agriculture.

The licensing of Pasteurising and Sterilising Establishments was transferred to the Foods & Drugs Authority (in our case, the Denbighshire County Council).

The licensing of Dealers in milk sold under the Special Designations remained with the Local Authority, and fees for licences were no longer payable.

While universal agreement for the policy of transferring the control of the production of milk to the Minister of Agriculture is not evident, the additional powers conferred should give better control.

The following statistics applied on the date of transfer of functions:-

No. of Producers and Producer-Retailers:-

(a) Tuberculin Tested and Accredited.....	10
(b) Ungraded.....	29
No. of Retailers.....	12
No. of Pasteurising Establishments.....	1
No. of Dealers Licences for Tuberculin Tested milk.	1
No. of Bottling Establishments for Tuberculin Tested Milk.....	2
No. of Supplementary Licences for Tuberculin Tested Milk.....	2
No. of Supplementary Licences for Pasteurised Milk.	3

During the year fifty-three samples of milk were collected, made up as follows:-

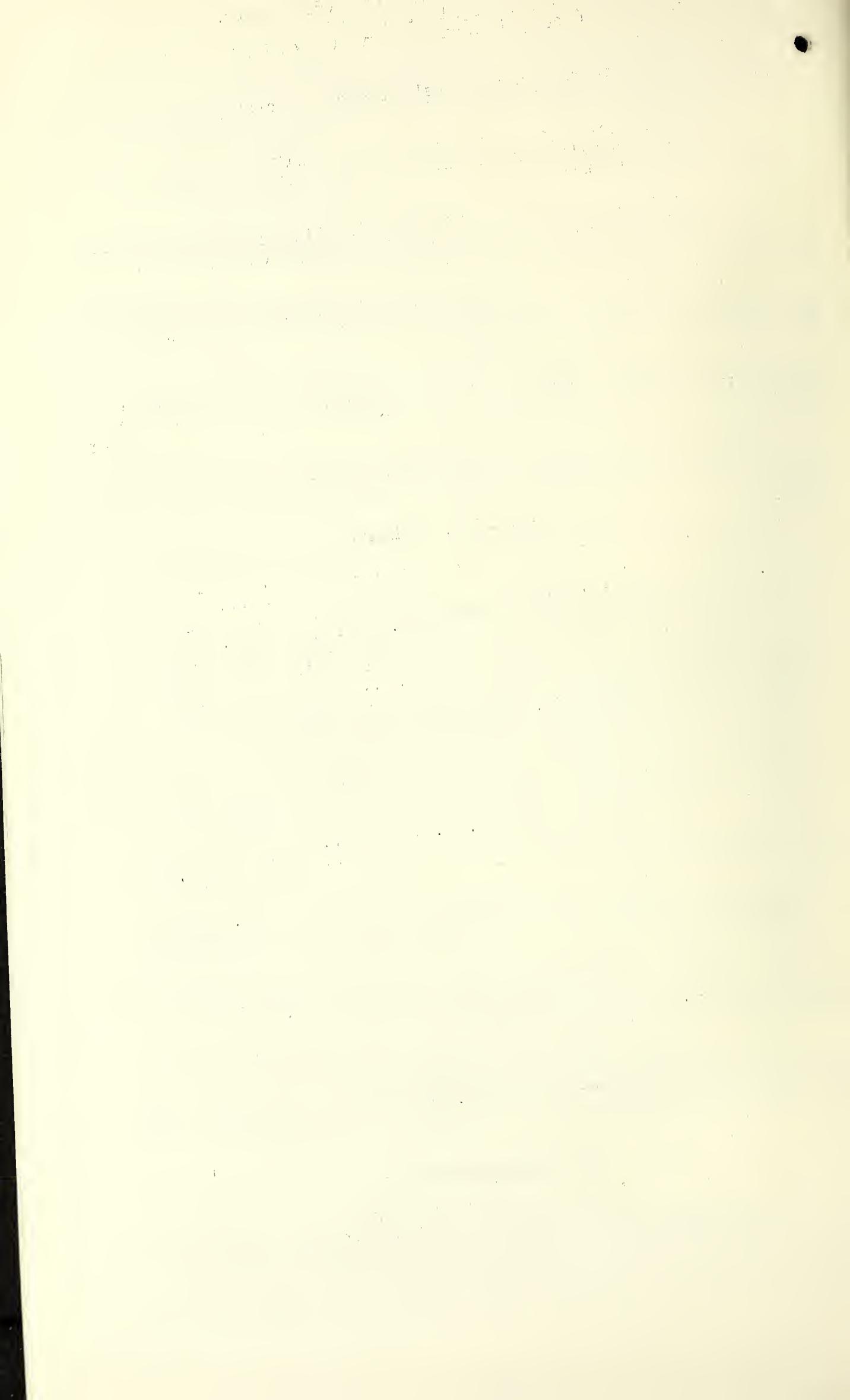
Tuberculin Tested & Accredited.....	21 samples.
Ungraded Raw Milk.....	1 sample.
Pasteurised.....	31 samples.

All samples of Pasteurised milk and all but three samples of raw milk complied with the prescribed tests, and this can be considered to be very satisfactory.

Included in the thirty-one samples of Pasteurised milk are sixteen samples which were taken at the schools. It is most important that only a safe milk is supplied to schools, and all the schools in the Urban area are supplied with Pasteurised milk.

Ice Cream Control.

The Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations came into full operation on 1st May, 1949, and the immediate effect was to reduce the number of ice cream manufacturers in the Urban area to two. Several Manufacturers decided that it was not an economical proposition for them to adapt their premises and install all the



apparatus required to comply with the Regulations.

During the summer months forty-three samples of ice cream were collected and submitted for bacteriological examination. In those cases where a series of samples from a particular manufacturer did not reach as high a standard as one would have wished, both the Retailer's and Producer's methods of handling were carefully checked.

Smoke Abatement.

There are very few premises to which the smoke nuisance clauses of the Public Health Act, 1936, apply. Difficulties in obtaining suitable fuel were experienced in some cases, and the occupiers of the factories were requested to give every attention to methods of stoking.

Rodent Control.

The amount of work in connection with Rodent destruction in our area is not considered to be sufficient to justify engaging a full-time Operator. Owing to difficulties experienced in retaining the services of a part-time Operator, the Council decided to approach the Rhyl Council with a view to the work being carried out by the Rhyl U.D.C. Operator.

From April 1st to December 31st, 1949, nine treatments were carried out, including two maintenance treatments of the sewers in Abergele. On all occasions the work was carried out efficiently and the arrangements met with the approval of the Ministry of Agriculture's Divisional Rodent Officer.

The net cost of this work to the Council has been low, but in some individual cases, because of travelling time, the cost to the individual occupier benefitting from the treatment has been higher than it would have been if the Council had employed its own Operator. This objection could be overcome if the Council decided to make a nominal charge only.

Refuse and Salvage.

I was responsible for the Council's Refuse Service for a part only of the year 1949.

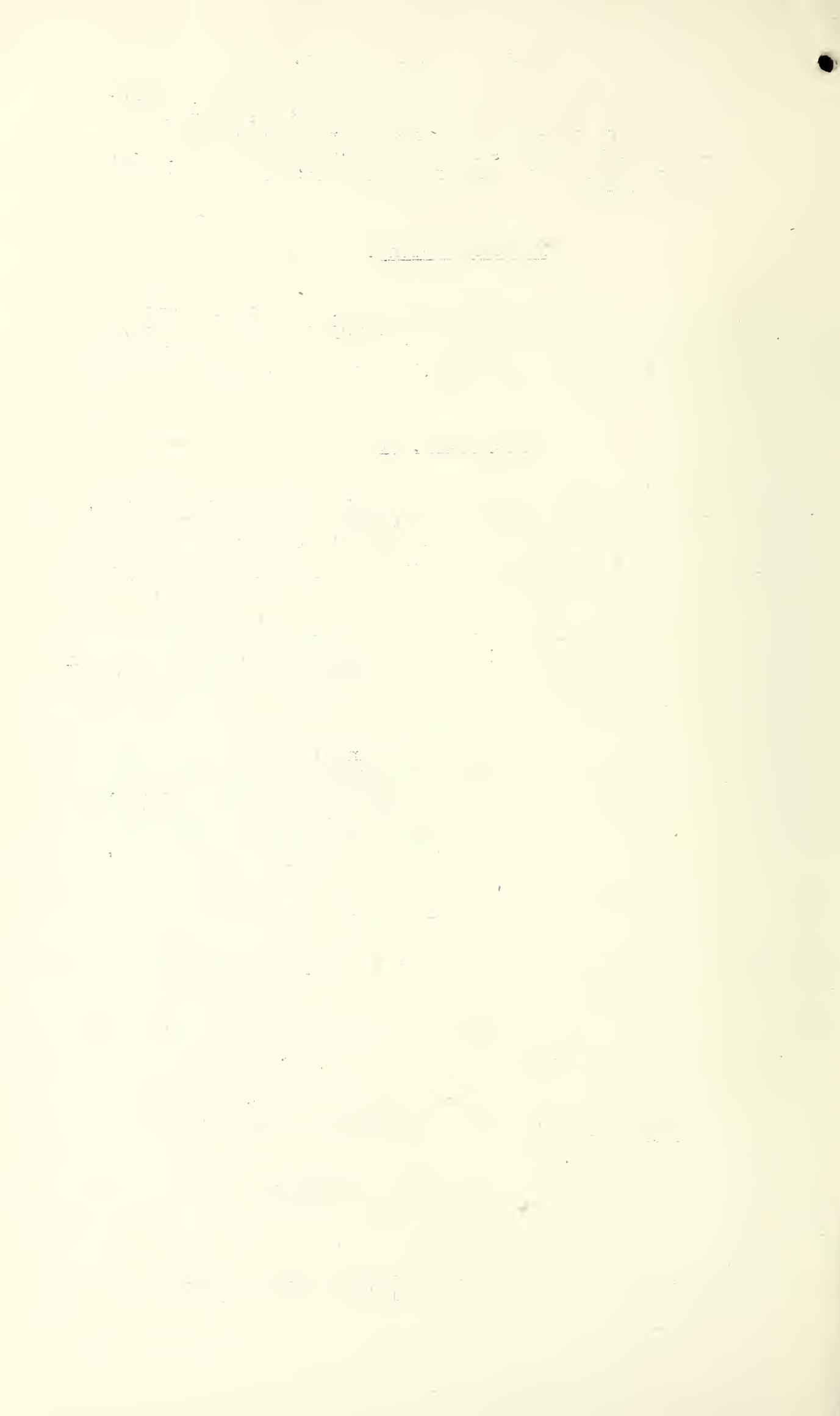
In accordance with the Council's Resolution, 20th May, 1949, the Disposal of Refuse by filling certain unwanted ditches on the Pentre Mawr Estate, was put under the control of the Surveyor.

On 19th July, 1949, the Council Resolved to transfer the supervision of Refuse Collection and Disposal to the Surveyor, and this Resolution was put into effect immediately.

During the early part of the year, I was seriously handicapped by sickness among the workmen and by the mechanical trouble with the vehicles and these two factors caused delays in Refuse Collection.

Tipping at Beach House, Llanddulas, was concluded on 17th January, 1949. It had been very difficult to maintain

/satisfactory



satisfactory conditions on this Tip for the following reasons:-

- (a) the site was open and subject to considerable interference by unknown persons, at times outside normal working hours.
- (b) debris of all kinds was deposited indiscriminately by unknown persons, without regard to the unsightly conditions created.
- (c) no soil was available for covering purposes.

In June, 1949, this Tip caught fire, the portion affected being the section which was put down during the summer of 1948, and which consisted almost wholly of Camp Refuse. In my opinion the fire would have been avoided if the Tip had been adequately sealed.

The Sea Road Tip was brought into use in January, 1949. The Council had Resolved to dispose of Refuse at Sea Road as a preliminary stage of a Development Scheme. For this reason the Tipping depth available was reduced considerably, resulting in uneconomical Refuse Disposal. During the few months I had control of Refuse Disposal at Sea Road, the Tip was maintained in a thoroughly sanitary condition. During the months of August considerable inconvenience was caused to nearby residents by the prevalence of flies, which it was contended, were breeding on the refuse which had been lying uncovered for lengthy periods at the Sea Road Tip and in the ditches on the Pentre Mawr Estate.

The collection and sale of Salvage proceeded at a satisfactory rate, in view of the circumstances attaching to the problem.

Yours sincerely,

F. EVANS,
Sanitary Inspector.



Refuse Collection and Salvage:

The following Statement has been supplied me by Mr. R. O. Roberts the Surveyor:-

Up to May, 1946, I was responsible for the Collection of the above. When the appointments were separated the responsibility was handed over to the Sanitary Inspector.

On the 19th July, 1949, I was requested by the Council to take over the Service, when it was at the height of the Camping season with an increase of population equal to three or four times the normal population and Refuse had to be cleared two or three times a week. Owing to the composition of the Refuse, which was mainly dirty paper and tins, it was most difficult to dispose of it by Tipping in the ordinary way as it could not be consolidated even by using sleepers. A number of disused ditches were filled and are to be covered over with the soil deposited on the sides from time to time. This is to be done by a Bulldozer.

During 1948, House Refuse was deposited indiscriminately on the Foresore land at Beach House, Llanddulas. This continued all along the front to a height of about five feet and about forty feet wide.

In June, 1949, the Refuse Tip caught fire and was burning for several months. The Fire Brigade was called out on three occasions and made every effort to extinguish the fire but without success. It was eventually left to burn itself out. It was decided to abandon this Tip to that end.

On the instructions of the Council, a Bulldozer which was hired for other work was used for the purpose of levelling and consolidating the Site and the work was partly carried out at a cost of over £250. I hope to complete the work when a Bulldozer is again available.

It will cost approximately £150 to complete the work.

I am not aware of any unauthorised Tipping on this Site except a casual load of Builder's debris and other oddments which, in my opinion, did not cause any nuisance.

In January, 1949, a Site was suggested at Pentre Mawr with a view to improving the land, etc., a Bulldozer was hired to make trenches about 15 feet wide where the Refuse was to be dumped. This, together with incidental works cost approximately £600. The site was unsuitable for Camp Refuse owing to its composition which I referred to previously.

It was stated at the time that Tipping on this Site caused considerable inconvenience to residents by the prevalence of flies. There was no evidence of this at the Tip itself. This complaint was general throughout the Country during the hot summer of 1949.

The disposal of winter Refuse is comparatively simple as there is plenty of covering material.

Towards the end of 1949 the foundation of a roadway through Pentre Mawr land was excavated and the Refuse was deposited here for many months and is still being done. This is in close proximity to the Council Offices and dwelling houses but no complaints have been received of any nuisance or inconvenience to the residents by flies.

/The



The collection and disposal of Refuse is now being dealt with satisfactorily and economically.

Salvage:

On the 19th of July, 1949, I took over the collection and disposal of Salvage. During August, the whole of the Salvage stored was baled and despatched to the Mills (104 Bales). The Salvage is now regularly baled and despatched monthly. Any accumulation tends to harbour rats. During the year the price was reduced and a five-year Contract was agreed with the Mills at £5 per ton plus extra for special paper.

10
11